

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Len Proctor, Chair, Academic Programs Committee of Council

DATE OF MEETING: April 21, 2011

SUBJECT: **College of Medicine: Change to definition of Saskatchewan Resident**

DECISION REQUESTED:

It is recommended:

That Council approve the proposal from the College of Medicine to change its definition of Saskatchewan resident for the purposes of establishing residency qualifications for admission within the Saskatchewan admission partition, effective for admissions in August, 2012.

PURPOSE:

The University of Saskatchewan Act 1995 requires that a decision to change academic or other qualifications required for admission as a student be approved by University Council [61 (1) (i)] and be confirmed by University Senate [63(1) (3) (a)]

SUMMARY:

The College of Medicine is clarifying how it defines a Saskatchewan resident to include a period of study at the University of Saskatchewan or University of Regina. It is also tightening exemptions to the three-year residency rule so that all applicants will be treated as fairly as possible.

REVIEW:

At its April 7, 2011 meeting, the Academic Programs Committee discussed this proposal with Admissions Coordinator Sherrill Bueckert. The Committee agreed to recommend that Council approve this proposal.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposal documentation

The following motions were approved at the January 19, 2011 meeting of the Faculty Council of the College of Medicine:

**REPORT FOR DECISION TO FACULTY COUNCIL
January 19, 2011**

1. MOTION

That as of the August 2012 incoming class, the College of Medicine no longer allow applicants to waive the three year Saskatchewan residency requirement with a 12-month requirement if they relocated to Saskatchewan for a spouse's, parent's, or guardian's reason of employment or training. The 12-month requirement will only be permitted for applicants who have relocated to Saskatchewan due to their spouse/parent/guardian reassignment to Saskatchewan as members of the Armed Forces of Canada or RCMP.

Note: Students (potential applicants for 2012 entry) that relocated to Saskatchewan as of fall 2010 that have already been given permission to apply for fall 2012 entry as Saskatchewan residents will be the last applicants permitted to be considered under the 12-month residency requirement.

2. MOTION

That as of the August 2012 incoming class, the College of Medicine will allow applicants to prove their residency in Saskatchewan through attending three full time years of study at the University of Saskatchewan or University of Regina (~~full time defined as minimum of 18 credits taken each Sept-Apr academic year~~) directly preceding the date of entry being sought.

Note: To date, the only acceptable forms of residency proof are Saskatchewan Driver's License or Health Card.

On behalf of the Admissions Committee,



Dr. Barry Ziola
Director of Admissions

Background information:

Subject – Motion 1

No longer allowing applicants to meet the 12-month Saskatchewan residency requirement based on relocating to Saskatchewan for employment or training of spouse/parent/guardian with the exception of members of the Armed Forces of Canada or RCMP.

Decision requested

The College of Medicine Admissions Residency Definition (provided below - see section A3) presently allows applicants who relocate to Saskatchewan for reasons of employment or training of their spouse/parent/guardian to meet the Saskatchewan residency requirement if they have been in the province for 12 months at the time of application rather than the normally required 3 year residency requirement which must be met by the date of which admission is being sought. The main concern with this policy is the increasing number of applicants using their spouse's relocation with large retail chains to meet the 12-month residency requirement. The Admissions Committee expressed that the reduced residency requirement should still be permitted for members of the Armed Forces of Canada or RCMP. Such individuals should continue to be allowed to apply under the 12-month residency requirement since their relocation is usually mandatory, not a matter of choice. Another concern arising with the 12-month residency policy is the issue of children (dependents) relocating to Saskatchewan due to their parent's employment, but not coming at the same time as the start date of their parent's employment or not living with their parents. To simplify matters and to ensure fairness for all applicants, the Admissions Committee felt that the same 3-year residency requirement should be required of all Saskatchewan residents. Note: This change will not impact the 15-year residency policy (see section A2 below).

Subject – Motion 2

Allowing applicants to prove Saskatchewan residency through full-time university enrollment at the University of Saskatchewan or University of Regina.

Decision requested

To date, applicants have been required to prove their Saskatchewan residency through either their Saskatchewan Driver's License or Health Card. This is reasonable for students moving here who know they plan to apply to medicine in the future; however, in the cases of students attending university in Saskatchewan (especially with parents in another province) who only decide on applying to medicine after being here for one, two, or more years, they often haven't changed the required documents to Saskatchewan. The Admissions Committee felt it was reasonable to allow a student who has attended three full-time university years ~~(minimum 18 credits in each Sept-Apr term; although, likely 30 credits/year as required to apply to medicine)~~ at the U of S or U of R to use this as proof of Saskatchewan residency for the purpose of applying to medicine.

<u>Current Saskatchewan Residency Definition and Policy:</u>	<u>Revised Saskatchewan Residency Definition and Policy</u>	<u>Change</u>
A. Saskatchewan Residents	A. Saskatchewan Residents	
1. Applicants must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants and have lived in Canada for at least three years prior to September 1 of the year in which admission is being sought.	1. Applicants must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants and have lived in Canada for at least three years prior to September 1 of the year in which admission is being sought.	No change
2. Applicants normally must have resided in Saskatchewan for three years directly preceding September 1 of the year in which admission is being sought. However, applicants who have left the province, but have previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of 15 years (permanent residency) will be treated as residents. Applicants who have previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of less than 15 years, and do not qualify under the three year condition, will receive credit of one year toward the three-year requirement for every five years residency in the province. Applicants who meet the same criteria based on residency in Yukon, Northwest, or Nunavut territory can apply as a Saskatchewan resident.	2. Applicants normally must have resided in Saskatchewan for three years directly preceding September 1 of the year in which admission is being sought. However, applicants who have left the province, but have previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of 15 years (permanent residency) will be treated as residents. Applicants who have previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of less than 15 years, and do not qualify under the three year condition, will receive credit of one year toward the three-year requirement for every five years residency in the province. Applicants who meet the same criteria based on residency in Yukon, Northwest, or Nunavut territory can apply as a Saskatchewan resident.	No change
3. An exception to the three-year ruling may be made for members of the Armed Forces of Canada or RCMP, or for an applicant whose spouse, parent, or guardian has moved to Saskatchewan for reasons of employment or training. In these cases, the applicant must have resided in Saskatchewan for at least 12 consecutive months directly preceding September 1 of the year of application (not year of entry should they be successful) and obtained written approval to waive the 3-year requirement.	3. An exception to the three-year ruling may be made for members of the Armed Forces of Canada or RCMP, or for an applicant whose spouse, parent, or guardian is a member of the Armed Forces of Canada or RCMP, who has moved to Saskatchewan due to being reassigned. In these cases, the applicant must have resided in Saskatchewan for at least 12 consecutive months directly preceding September 1 of the year of application (not year of entry should they be successful) and obtained written approval to waive the 3-year requirement.	Tightens exceptions to improve fairness
	4. Application can be made by individuals who have been in three years of full time study at the University of Saskatchewan or University of Regina (full-time defined as a minimum of 18 credits taken each Sept-Apr academic year) directly preceding the date of entry being sought.	Allows Saskatchewan residency to be established by students who have studied full-time at the U of S or U of R for three academic years.

<p>Appropriate documentation to support a residency claim under Section 2 or 3 above (as a resident of Saskatchewan/territory) must be provided (i.e., Driver's License and/or Health Card where residency will date from when documentation changed to Saskatchewan or territory).</p>	<p>Appropriate documentation to support a residency claim under Section 2 or 3 above (as a resident of Saskatchewan/territory) must be provided (i.e., Driver's License and/or Health Card where residency will date from when documentation was changed to Saskatchewan or territory).</p> <p>Appropriate documentation to support a residency claim under section 4 above will be an official transcript from the University of Regina or the University of Saskatchewan.</p>	<p>Transcript to be accepted as proof of Saskatchewan residency.</p>
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